

embodiments that are presented. The following is shown:

FIG. 1 is a top view of a square drum-type container according to the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a side view of a square drum-type container according to the present invention, with the right side showing a partially cross-sectional representation of the upper and lower segments taken along line A-A of FIG. 1, and the left side showing a partially cross-sectional representation of a different embodiment according to the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a cross-section through the body of a square drum-type container according to the present invention, showing a circular footprint for comparison;

FIG. 4A is a side view of one embodiment of a drum according to this invention, with a partially cross-sectional representation of the upper and lower segments;

FIG. 4B is a side view of another embodiment of a drum according to this invention, with a partially cross-sectional representation of the upper and lower segments;

FIG. 5 is a top view of a preferred embodiment of the invention;

FIG. 6 is a side view of the container of FIG. 5, with a partially cross-sectional representation of the upper and lower segments;

FIG. 7 shows a diagonal cross-section of the drum of FIG. 5 taken along line B-B;

FIG. 8 illustrates the handling of a drum according to the present invention, lying sideways;

FIG. 9 illustrates the handling of a tipped drum according to the present invention;

and

FIG. 10 is a top view of four palletized drums according to the present invention.

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Paragraph on page 4, beginning at line 16:

FIG. 5 is a top view of the preferred embodiment of the drum 10. This embodiment of drum 10 has a first portion with a substantially rectangular or substantially square cross-section, and a second portion with a substantially circular cross-section defined by four angular corner indentations 24 formed in the drum. The angular corner indentations 24 are outlined by the round dashed line. The indentations 24 may be deeper at the corner areas than they are on the side wall

C<sup>2</sup>  
sections in between. In addition, as shown in FIG. 6, the indentations 24 define a vertical thickness that varies around the circumference of the side wall, e.g., is greatest in the corner areas and transitions into the flat surfaces of the side wall sections in between.

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Paragraph on page 4, beginning at line 22:

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C<sup>3</sup>  
In the preferred embodiment of FIG. 5, the second portion of the drum 10 has a substantially circular cross-section in the horizontal plane of maximum continuous indentation. Referring to the outline of the substantially square drum 10, the ratio between the long radius 36, which is measured toward the corners, and the short radius 38, which is measured toward the midpoint of the side walls, is between 1.05 and 1.34 and preferably about 1.22.

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**IN THE CLAIMS:**

A marked-up version of the amended claims, showing insertions and deletions, is attached as Appendix C. A complete set of currently pending claims, reflecting these amendments, is attached as Appendix D.

Please rewrite claims 1, 17, 34-36, 43 and 45 to read as follows:

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C<sup>4</sup>  
1. (Twice Amended) A drum comprising:

a side wall comprising a plurality of side wall sections connected by corner sections, the side wall having end portions disposed at longitudinal ends thereof;

first and second end walls located adjacent the end portions, the first end wall defining a fill/drain opening therein;

a circumferential carrying and transport rim disposed on at least one of the end portions and configured for carrying the drum with drum handling equipment; and

a first indentation formed on the side wall substantially intermediate the end portions, the first indentation configured and dimensioned to resist buckling of the side wall, wherein the drum defines a longitudinal axis between the end portions, and the indentation extends substantially circumferentially about the side wall around the longitudinal axis and is substantially